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(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: SCOTT, Jeffrey, D. [US/US]; 3245 S. 600 E.,
Waldron, IN 46182 (US).

(74) Agent: POWLICK, Jill, T.; Barnes & Thornburg, 11
South Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 (US).

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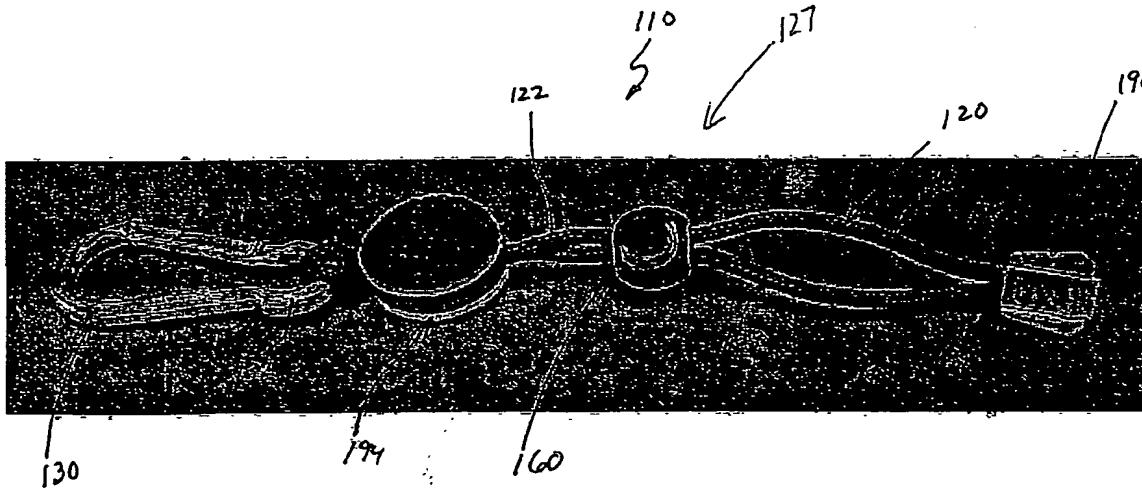
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- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ADJUSTABLE RETAINER FOR TRANSPORTING ARTICLES



(57) Abstract: Devices and methods of retaining an item are provided. An article carrier (10, 110) is provided, the article carrier comprising a flexible cable (20, 120) formed into a loop (28, 128) for holding the item, a clip (30, 130) coupled to the cable (20, 120) to couple the item to another object, and a cable retainer (60, 160) engaging the cable (20, 120) to adjust the size of the loop (28, 128) to secure the item within the loop (28, 128). The methods illustratively involve placing a portion of the item in the loop (28, 128), moving the cable retainer (60, 160) to tighten the loop (28, 128) around the portion of the item, and coupling the clip (30, 130) to the object. In an illustrated embodiment, the item is a beverage container, the portion of the item is the neck of the beverage container, and the object is a belt or belt loop worn by a person wishing to retain the beverage container.

WO 03/077705 A1

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/07329

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A45F 5/00
US CL : 224/148.6, 674, 250, 269; 24/3.13

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 224/148.1, 148.5, 148.6, 148.7, 666, 669, 670, 674, 675, 250, 269; 24/3.12, 3.13, 3.2, 3.7, 136R, 301, 302

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,896,623 A (MARTIN) 27 April 1999, see entire document, especially the embodiment of figure 3.	1-10, 14-18, 22-27, 30-31, 33-36, 43-47, 51-56
Y		11-13, 19-21, 39-42, 48-50
X	US 6,029,870 A (GIACONA, III.) 29 February 2000, see entire document.	1-5, 16, 18, 24-31, 33-36, 45-47, 54-58
Y	US 6,056,173 A (GILLESPIE) 02 May 2000, see entire document.	11-13, 19-21, 39-42, 48-50
A	US 5,664,712 A (SMRT) 09 September 1997, see entire document.	1-58
A	US 6,131,780 A (BECKER) 17 October 2000, see entire document.	1-58
A	US 5,459,903 A (TREACY) 24 October 1995, see entire document.	1-58
A	US 5,956,812 A (MOENING) 28 September 1999, see entire document.	1-58

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer


Nathan J. Newhouse

Telephone No. (703)-308-1148


Sheila H. Veney
Paralegal Specialist
Tech. Center 3700

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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2,911,694 A (SERON) 10 November 1959, see entire document.	1-58

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